



The Taxonomic Report

OF THE INTERNATIONAL LEPIDOPTERA SURVEY



A Concise Update of the Information Provided in ***THE BUTTERFLIES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (1973)***

by Thomas C. Emmel and John F. Emmel

- ADDITIONAL SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA UPDATES -

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FAMILY LYCAENIDAE (COPPERS, HAIRSTREAKS and BLUES)

ELLIS'S BLUE *Euphilotes ellisi* (Shields).

Update: Two subspecies were described in the Systematics publication: *euromojavensis* Pratt & J. Emmel from the mountains of the eastern Mojave Desert including the Providence Mountains and *avawatz* Pratt & J. Emmel from the Avawatz Mountains, San Bernardino County.

PART II: RARELY RECORDED SPECIES LIST

Satyridae:

OCHRE RINGLET *Coenonympha ochracea* W. H. Edwards.

Update: This butterfly was listed in the 1998 state checklist by Emmel, Emmel & Mattoon in the Systematics publication and as a possible "resident" in the Panamint Range which occurs both north and south of the arbitrary boundary between northern and southern California. John F. Emmel states that the specimen is a male (slightly worn) that is so unique it may represent an undescribed subspecies (it was listed as "near *furcae* Barnes & Benjamin" in the checklist). It was taken in the Panamint Range; vicinity of Charcoal Kilns, Wildrose Canyon, Inyo County, 27 June 1976 leg. Douglas Mullens. J. Emmel states it may or may not belong on the southern California list.

PART III: EXCLUDED LIST OF SPECIES

(Because of suspected mislabeling, incorrect identification, questionable status or erroneous information.)

Hesperiidae:

ARIZONA GIANT SKIPPER *Agathymus aryxna* (Dyar).

Update: This species has been listed on the USGS list for San Bernardino County. It is possible Kilian Roever may have California records for *aryxna*, but until such records are published all California records for this complex are considered to be *gentryi* Roever.

TECUMSEH SKIPPER *Polites sabuleti tecumseh* (Grinnell).

Update: This skipper was reported from the Greenhorn Mountains north of Sunday Peak on the Kern/Tulare County line by K. Davenport in the 1996 Season Summary and in the Kern/Tulare County publication. While the presence of *tecumseh* there is valid it appears the collecting site is actually in Tulare County (only a surveyor could resolve the issue) and just barely north of the arbitrary southern California boundary.

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Pieridae:

THE WESTERN WHITE *Pontia occidentalis occidentalis* (Reakirt).

Included on the San Bernardino County checklist by the USGS. The likely habitat would be in the San Bernardino Mountains on Mt. San Gorgonio. John F. Emmel and others have failed to find the species there. Heavily patterned *P. protodice* can strongly resemble *P. occidentalis* at times and confusion between the two species is suspected here. J. Emmel and I doubt the San Bernardino Mountains record is valid.

Satyridae:

MEAD'S WOOD-NYMPH *Cercyonis meadii mexicana* (W. H. Edwards).

This is another species reported for southern California on the USGS list. Reportedly, an individual was collected in Riverside County in the San Jacinto Mtns. at Idylwild 28 VI 1985. Emmel and I doubt that the record is valid. Mislabeling is suspected.

LIKELY FUTURE CHANGES

Lycaenidae:

THE COLUMBIA BLUE *Glaucopsyche lygdamus* nr. *columbia* (Skinner).

Update: John F. Emmel, Andrew Warren and others believe Sierra Nevada populations are actually closer to the **UNRECOGNIZED BLUE** (*G. lygdamus incognita* Tilden). It was previously noted that such Sierran west slope populations differ from *columbia* from the type locality.

DESERT MOUNTAINS LUPINE BLUE *Plebejus lupini argentata* Emmel, Emmel & Mattoon.

Update: Paul Opler believes that the name *argentata* is likely a synonym of *chlorina*. The name *argentata* has been applied to populations in the southern Sierra Nevada (including the Piute subrange) which appear to represent *chlorina* (on *E. umbellatum*) and *monticola* (on *E. fasciculatum*). No conclusions are made here pending further research by Opler and J. Emmel.